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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER FROM FRESNO**  
**SENTENCED TO TEN-YEAR PRISON TERM**  
**FOR POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

FRESNO - United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that WAYNE EUGENE KINZEL, 31, of Fresno, California was sentenced to federal prison for a term of 120 months (10 years) by the Honorable Anthony W. Ishii for his conviction of one count of possessing visual depictions of the sexual exploitation of minors.

The case was the result of a joint investigation by agents of the Fresno office of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Fresno County Sheriff's Department, Computer Crimes Unit. The case is part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Project Safe Childhood (PSC). PSC was established to increase federal prosecution of violent sexual predators of children, and to reduce the number of internet crimes against children including child pornography trafficking. As a part of PSC, United States Attorney Offices have teamed with state and local agencies and organizations to increase law enforcement presence on the internet, and to educate the public and children of safe internet use, thereby reducing the chance they may fall prey to online sexual predators. For additional information on the PSC initiative, please go to [www.projectsafefchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafefchildhood.gov) or call the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and ask to speak with the PSC coordinator.

According to Assistant United States Attorney David Gappa, who prosecuted the case, KINZEL admitted in a plea agreement that from January 2006, through July 26, 2006, he knowingly possessed visual depictions of the sexual exploitation of minors. The offense involved material depicting prepubescent minors. KINZEL previously was convicted on May 7, 1997, in the California Superior Court, Fresno County, for a violation of California Penal Code § 288(a), for lewd and lascivious acts with a minor under age 14.

KINZEL has been detained in federal custody as a risk of flight and a danger to the community since his arrest on July 26, 2006. After serving his prison sentence, KINZEL will be on supervised release for 180 months (15 years). During this time the defendant's access to computers, the internet, and minors will be restricted. KINZEL will be required to maintain his registration as a sex offender.

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